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Letter dated 16 March 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of the statement issued today by the Government of Mexico concerning the decision by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to withdraw from the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

I should be grateful if you would have the statement distributed as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 71 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Manuel TELLO
Permanent Representative of Mexico
to the United Nations

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ANNEX

Statement by the Government of Mexico concerning the denunciation by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

The Government of Mexico regrets the statement by the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea announcing its decision to denounce the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and expresses its concern at the effects which the withdrawal of that country may have on the credibility of the system of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons.

Mexico has always worked for disarmament, non-proliferation and the complete elimination of weapons of mass destruction. The denunciation of the Non-Proliferation Treaty by a State party is a setback, given the great progress made in this sphere.

The step taken by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is also cause for concern because it comes at a time when there are serious doubts within the International Atomic Energy Agency as to that country's compliance with its obligations under the Non-Proliferation Treaty.

The Government of Mexico expresses its hope that the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea will reconsider its decision, thereby demonstrating its good faith with regard to the purposes and principles which prompted the international community to put the nuclear non-proliferation regime into effect in 1968.